$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^2 & O \\
X & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
Z & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
R^1 & O \\
\end{array}$$

wherein R indicates a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl group, R¹ indicates a lower alkyl group, R² indicates a hydrogen atom, amino group or nitro group, X indicates a halogen atom, and Z indicates a halogen atom, piperazino group, N-methylpiperazino group, 3-methylpiperazino group, 3-hydroxypyrrolidino group, or pyrrolidino group of the following formula,

/-N R3 (CH2)n-N R4

(here, n is 0 or 1, R³ indicates a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl group, R⁴ indicates a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl group and R⁵ indicates a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl group, acyl group or alkoxycarbonyl group), the hydrates and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof are useful as antibacterial agents.—

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 2.

Please amend Claim 1 and add new Claims 8-20.

--1. (Amended) 8-Alkoxyquinolonecarboxylic acid derivatives represented by a general formula (I);